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(B)

22 October 1947

TO: Estimates Group

FROM: Global Survey Group

SUBJECT: Comment on draft entitled "Soviet Action in Germany
against the European Recovery Program."

This draft touches the edge of a subject (Soviet intentions in Germany as affected by the "Marshall Plan" and with particular reference to possible Soviet action at the CFM) which would make a good topic for an item in the ORE Series. It is not clear what this draft is intended to be. It lacks the timeliness and urgency required of an item in the Special Evaluation Series, and is entirely too superficial and obscure for publication in any form. It should be redone as an ORE.

Some specific criticism will be found in marginal comment on the draft, but it is impossible to touch upon all shortcomings of the present draft in that fashion. In general the text is vague and inconclusive. There is no definite exposition of what the U.S.S.R. is deemed likely to propose, nor is there adequate discussion of either the considerations affecting a Soviet decision to make such proposals or the possible consequences of such action. In view of the foregoing, and from the context, it would appear that the "estimate" is not derived from thorough analysis of the situation in Germany and the requirements of Soviet policy, but consists rather of cursory comment on vague field reports.

Good intelligence estimates cannot be expected until the Branches learn to distinguish between the requirements of the Daily Summary for briefing and hasty comment and the requirements of deliberate intelligence analysis. An ORE must be something more than a Daily Summary item writ large.

LM

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Comment -
2nd para shows
any that Soviet policy in it
respect to Germany in the CFM
will be determined by the
Marshall program. or that the
necessity for preventing the
success of the plan
will result in a
change in Soviet
policy in
CFM